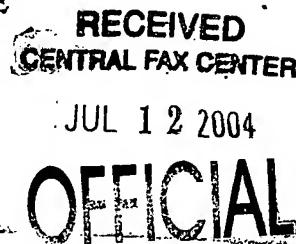


Jan Arthur Aune et al.  
USSN: 10/646,507  
Filed August 23, 2003

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of ) Examiner Tu Ba Hoang  
Jan Arthur Aune et al. ) Group Art Unit 3742  
Serial No. 10/646,507 ) Confirmation No.: 9659  
Filed August 23, 2003 ) Atty. Docket No.: 03-0668  
For Electrode Arrangement As Substitute ) ESCM 370108-00048  
Bottom For An Electrothermic Slag )  
Smelting Furnace )

**RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT**

July 12, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated April 19, 2004, in connection with the above-captioned application. The Office Action has been carefully reviewed, and the following response offered in attempt to advance the case to allowance. Reconsideration and early allowance of all pending claims in light of the following amendments and remarks is courteously requested. Please amend the captioned application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.